## **REMARKS**

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2006. Claims 3-11 and 13-18 are now pending.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 3, 17 and 18 contain allowable subject matter. In this regard, allowable claims 3, 17 and 18 have been essentially rewritten in independent form. Moreover, allowable subject matter of claim 17 has been added to claim 10.

Thus, all claims are now in condition for allowance given the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

Joseph A. Rhoa Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj 901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor Arlington, VA 22203-1808 Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100